

Addendum 01

This addendum is issued with respect to the **RFP No. - IRADe/SARI/2020-21/06 - Request for proposal to “Empanel Think Tanks for creation of an outreach and dissemination forum to fast-track the agenda of Cross-border Energy Trade (CBET) and regional energy cooperation among South Asian countries”** issued on **17th May 2021**. This addendum has been issued to inform the following:

- a. Pre-bid queries for **RFP No. - IRADe/SARI/2020-21/06** will be accepted only till 28th May 2021.
- b. The responses against pre-bid queries received for the above mentioned RFP is listed below:

SN	Queries	Response by IRADe
1.	Section 3.12	“Concluding Regional Level Conference” has been added to the List wherein the Think Tanks need to participate. The conference shall be organized by the SARI-EI Team.
2.	Section 3.12, Note 1	The venue for the workshop and flight fares will be arranged by SARI/EI Admin Team with support from the Think Tanks to be rewritten as “The venue for the Seminar and flight fares will be arranged by SARI/EI Admin Team with support from the Think Tanks”.
3.	Section 3.12, Note 2	“...cost for organizing such seminars will be arranged by SARI-EI Admin Team.” to be replaced by “cost for organizing such workshops will be arranged by SARI-EI Admin Team”.
4.	While applying as a consortium, the details of the four sections in the bid required, namely cover letter, technical bid, resource plan and proposed methodology, should be provided for all the organisations in the consortium or by the lead organisation?	In the Technical Proposal, details of all firms forming the consortium should be provided along with the experience. The methodology need not be separate for the organizations, however, an overall insight should be provided on how the work shall be carried out as per the scope of work mentioned in Section 3 of the RFP document. The activity schedule may specify, the tasks to be carried out by each of the key person (with the name of the Organisation) proposed in the Technical Proposal.
1.1	If the experience and organisational background is provided for the consortium, including the constituent think-tanks, is there a need for a letter of association?	Yes, a letter of association of the consortium members needs to be furnished, agreeing to carry out the assignment specified in the RFP jointly, and acknowledgment of the Lead Firm

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1.2	There seems to be no section in the current bid format for financial proposal. However, there is a country-wise tentative budget given for various activities. What would be the financial implication while applying as a consortium with respect to budget allocation, monitoring and evaluation or any other details?	<p>The Financial Bid is not required to be submitted as the budget is already pre-decided and shared in the RFP. At least two think tanks will be empaneled in each country, depending on the evaluation of their technical credentials. The contract will be awarded country-wise to the think tank, which has the best technical credentials.</p> <p>For all transactions, IRADe will correspond only with the lead firm. It is for the Lead Firm to agree on cost and implication with the consortium members. An internal arrangement between the consortium partners regarding the budget allocation may be worked out.</p>
5.	There seems to be some confusion over the list of activities provided for the Think Tank Forum and what will be the Scope of Work for empaneled think tanks. Request you to provide clarity about the activities that are expected from the empaneled think tanks. Furthermore, the budgeted activities of the Forum as per Section 3.12 of RFP details out 5 activities and their respective budgets. Can the empaneled think tank undertake all of these budgeted activities?	<p>The think tanks are expected to undertake the following activities to push forward the CBET agenda in their respective country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder meetings, with attendance by senior level Ministers, policymakers/ decision-makers of the country • National level seminars conducted on the relevant topics, with adequate USAID, IRADe, SARI/EI branding • Media outreach & engagement • Conducting media fellowship • Undertaking study on a topic related to CBET • Engaging with youth/academia on topics aligned to SARI/EI objectives • Two-day Annual seminar, along with dissemination of Study • Concluding Regional Level Conference (to be organized by the SARI-EI Project Secretariat) <p>Yes, the contracted think tank has to undertake all these activities.</p>
6.	The RfP mentions CBET and Energy Cooperation as the main elements of work. It also mentions in certain sections that the work would include work on socio-economic impact assessment, livelihoods, climate change, energy-water-food nexus, amongst others. From the point of view of this bid submission, what are the main themes of work	<p>The ideal think tank partner should have a strong national presence with an excellent record of accomplishment in policy making and analysis, economic analysis, regulations and advocacy capabilities in energy, environment and climate change. Further, experience in other sectors such as water, agriculture etc. is an added advantage, as an understanding of the energy-water-climate-food nexus adds to the understanding of the multifaceted nature of the issue. The main theme of work, which needs to be undertaken, is Regional cooperation in the field of energy. The</p>

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	that are expected to be undertaken, for which the applicants need to showcase their organisational strength and experience?	purpose of the think tank is to see that the learnings of benefits permeate to the all strata of society, so as to remove communication gaps w.r.t. advantages of regional energy cooperation.
7.	Can the think tanks, once empanelled, reallocate the total budget for various activities? For instance, can some of the extra budget for the annual workshop be used towards conducting the commissioned study?	Reallocation of budget to other activities is not permitted.
8.	Is there any specific reason for the difference in tentative budget allocation for the annual workshop in India vs in the other countries of the region? What would be the case if such workshops had to be conducted virtually given the pandemic?	The cost of conducting workshop in India is lower as some of the costs like flights and hotels for SARI-EI Delegates have not been included in the amount budgeted for India. Flights tickets for delegates from Indian Think Tanks would be cheaper due to domestic travel. In case, the webinars/consultations need to be organised online, the actual cost of hosting and other related expenditure should be raised in the invoice. For Physical Workshop/Seminars, the payment would be made directly to the hotels for hosting the events and the flight tickets will be arranged by SARI-EI/IRADe.
9.	What is the time period for which a think-tank or consortium is empanelled as per this bid submission? Will it be limited to the 1-year period of activities or will it entail in a longer partnership with further activities and assignments to be conducted?	The initial contract would be for a period of 12 months. Post that, in case of satisfactory performance and the prevailing conditions, the contract may be renewed for the remaining duration of the SARI/EI project.

Issued by:

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